PRESS RELEASE FROM LEGISLATOR LESLIE KENNEDY.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 17, 2015

CONTACT: Zach Viola LEGISLATIVE AIDE PHONE: (631) 854-3735 FAX: (631) 854-3744

Email: <u>zach.viola@suffolkcountyny.gov</u>

LOCAL BOY SCOUTS CLEAN THE STREAM WITH LEGISLATOR KENNEDY

August 15, 2015 – On a warm Saturday morning Legislator Leslie Kennedy (R-Nesconset) met with five local Boy Scout troops in Smithtown to clean a tributary stream that leads to the Nissequoge River. The Boy Scouts who hailed from Troops: 3, 539, 888, 214, 349, worked tirelessly this Saturday in order to accomplish this task alongside the Leslie as part of a broader effort on the part of Legislator Kennedy to bring long term, meaningful relief to groundwater flooding conditions in the area.



(Leslie Kennedy with Scouts from Troops 3, 539, 888, 214, and 349)

The troops met at the corner of Forest Lane and Tanglewood Drive, and they embarked on their cleaning mission from there. The stream which feeds one of Long Island's largest lakes, runs between residential properties in Smiththown. The issue arises when the stream becomes polluted with debris and stops the flow of water, when this occurs residents experience flooding in their yards and houses which can lead to property damage.



(Leslie Kennedy With boys from Troop 3, Long Island's oldest troop)

The stream was muddy and covered in heavy brush, but the Scouts were able to clear away the brush with tools loaned from the Department of Public Works, and they were able to clean out anything from the stream that was man made and ensure that the stream would flow properly. The Scouts had to be environmentally sensitive to the area and not disrupt the integrity of the stream bed while still cleaning it of all foreign debris.

Legislator Leslie Kennedy did not shy away from getting down in the mud and went along with the troops down the muddy trail of the stream. "I was so impressed with the effort of the Boy Scout Troops who came down Saturday morning to clean up the stream, it's important to learn to care for our environment so that we can enjoy it for years to come." said Leslie. "I look forward to working with these Scouts in the future as we continue to clean up the streams in Smithtown"

After the expedition in the stream all the scouts came back covered in mud, but the stream was flowing more steadily than before. And the residents in the surrounding area should be less susceptible to flooding and property damage after the valiant effort of the troops.



(Leslie and John Kennedy with the Troops after cleaning the stream)

For any questions about this event or other community events feel free to contact Leslie Kennedy's office at (631) 854-3735, and don't hesitate to reach us online at Leslie.kennedy@suffolkcountyny.gov or facebook.com/legislatorlesliekennedy.

###